PUBLIC GOVERNANCE AND TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE
PUBLIC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Working Party of Senior Budget Officials

AGENDA

3rd Experts Meeting on Distributed Public Governance

Monitoring Agencies, Authorities and Other Government Bodies: How to Best Balance Autonomy and Control?

OECD Headquarters, Paris
14-15 November 2002

For more information, please contact
Elsa Pilichowski. Tel: +33 (0)1 45 24 76 12; Email: elsa.pilichowski@oecd.org

JT00134697

Document complet disponible sur OLIS dans son format d'origine
Complete document available on OLIS in its original format
MONITORING AGENCIES, AUTHORITIES AND OTHER GOVERNMENT BODIES: HOW TO BEST BALANCE AUTONOMY AND CONTROL?

AGENDA

Thursday, 14 November

9.00 – 9.15  Coffee and croissants outside the meeting room

9.15 – 9.45  Introductory remarks by the Secretariat

Summary of the conclusions of the April meeting.

9.45 – 10.45  Session 1: Evaluating agencies, authorities and other government bodies

This session will focus on three countries evaluations of the governance and management of their agencies, authorities and other government bodies. It will look at the recent evaluations of the “system” of agencies, authorities and other government bodies as well as concentrate on the evaluation mechanisms for individual bodies. Finally, general lessons for the evaluation will be derived and future challenges for monitoring and control identified.

Country presentations:

United Kingdom: Ms. Rosemarry Banner, Head of Public Bodies Unit, Cabinet Office.

Netherlands: Mr. Ronald Van Oosteroon, Head, Management Control, Directorate of Budget Affairs, Ministry of Finance.

France: Mr. Claude Rochet, Project Leader, Interministerial Delegation for the Reform of the State and Associate Professor, Information Management and Public Management, Université Paris Nord.

Comments and discussion

10.45 – 11.15  Coffee break

11.15 – 11.45  Session 1: Continued and wrap up

11.45 – 12.45  Session 2: Establishing good reporting practices

This short session will review the different mechanisms which ensure that reporting ministries and departments have enough information to control and monitor agencies, authorities and other government bodies. Country presentations will review recent developments in reporting practices and the challenges they create to reporting ministries and to agencies, authorities and other government bodies.
Country presentations:

Iceland: Mr. Jon Magnusson, Head of Division, Ministry of Finance.

Finland: Ms Anja Simola, Counsellor, Public Management department, Ministry of Finance.

Comments and discussion

12.45 – 14.00  Lunch (no host lunch at the OECD “Brasserie”)

14.00 – 15.15  Session 3: Budget flexibility of agencies, authorities and other government bodies

This short session will focus on the budget flexibility of arm’s-length bodies. It will cover the operational benefits but also the challenges it creates for central reporting ministries including Ministries of Finance, in terms of monitoring and control. The session will also review recent developments in budget flexibility for spending, fundraising and borrowing.

Country presentations:


Norway: Ms. Anne Kristin Fosli, Senior Adviser, Ministry of Finance.

Comments and discussions

15.15 – 15.45  Coffee break

15.45 – 17.30  Session 4: Accountability for performance

This session will cover countries’ experience with mechanisms to ensure that agencies, authorities and other government bodies are held accountable for their performance. It will review the challenges created by the introduction of performance oriented management approaches in the contracts between reporting ministries and these arm’s-length bodies, including: the definition of objectives, performance measurement, performance assurance, sanctions and the publicity of performance documents.

Country presentations:

New Zealand: Mr. Dave Cox, Manager, State Services Commission.

Denmark: Mr Jonas Fallov, Special Advisor, Ministry of Finance.

Comments and discussions

Depending on the number of interested participants, the Secretariat will organise a no-host dinner at a nearby restaurant.
Friday, 15 November

9.15 – 10.45  **Focus group discussions: Issues of capability and capacity**

Focus group 1: This group will focus on the cultural and capability changes (in terms of leadership, personnel, structures and processes) required in central reporting ministries including Ministries of Finance, to effectively monitor agencies, authorities and other government bodies.

Focus group 2: This focus group will review the cultural and capability changes (in terms of leadership, personnel and processes) required at the level of agencies, authorities and other government bodies to best manage these bodies at arm’s-length from traditional vertically integrated ministries.

10.45 – 11.15  **Coffee break**

11.15 – 12.00  **Report from the focus group and discussions.**

12.00 – 13.00  **Discussion on the future work programme and on the symposium** for agency heads (scheduled for the autumn of 2003): process, content, main themes, marketing and country co-ordination.

**Conclusions**